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SOMALIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
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TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - SEPTEMBER 27, 1994

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1. THE FOLLOWING IS RWANDA PRESS GUIDANCE (AF) AND MOZAMBIOUE PRESS GUIDANCE (AF).

- 2. AF PRESS GUIDANCE RWANDA: HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY RPF
- Q: IS IT TRUE THAT THE RPF HAS COMMITTED HUMAN RIGHTS ATROCITIES? WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT?
- A: THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF HARASSMENT AND REPRISALS BY RPF SOLDIERS AND RETURNING TUTSI REFUGEES AGAINST HUTUS, PARTICULARLY IN SOUTHEASTERN RWANDA. THE CONTINUED OUTFLOW OF REFUGEES TO TANZANIA HAS BEEN OF PARTICULAR CONCERN.

FROM THE TIME WE FIRST HEARD THESE REPORTS, WE URGED THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA TO INVESTIGATE AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION. WE MADE THIS POINT BOTH THROUGH OUR EMBASSY IN

KIGALI AND IN MEETINGS BETWEEN VISITING U.S. OFFICIALS AND RWANDAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THE PRESIDENTIAL MISSION ALSO RAISED THESE REPORTS.

THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT ASSURED US THAT REPRISALS ARE NOT THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SAID THEY BELIEVED THE ATTACKS WERE ISOLATED INCIDENTS AND THAT THEY WERE WORKING TO ENSURE DISCIPLINE WITHIN THE MILITARY.

SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION WHICH SUGGESTS THAT THE PROBLEM MAY BE MORE WIDESPREAD THAN ORIGINALLY REPORTED IS UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTROVERSIAL. THE UN IS INVESTIGATING AND HAS DISCUSSED
THE MATTER WITH THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE ALSO
URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE
ACTION.

WE HAVE DISCUSSED WITH UNAMIR THE CRITICAL NEED TO PLACE PEACEKEEPERS IN THE SOUTHEAST WHERE THE REPORTS OF ABUSES HAVE BEEN CENTERED. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE UN IS DISPATCHING A CONTINGENT TO THE AREA.

- Q: WAS THIS RAISED DURING UNDER SECRETARY WIRTH'S TRIP? CAN WE GET A WRAP UP ON THE TRIP?
- A: UNDER SECRETARY WIRTH FINISHED A VISIT TO THE REGION YESTERDAY. HE SPENT SEVERAL DAYS IN RWANDA AND, ALONG WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICA, PRUDENCE BUSHNELL, HE RAISED OUR CONCERNS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND URGED IMMEDIATE ACTION TO INVESTIGATE THE REPORTS OF ABUSES AND TAKE STEPS TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AGREED THAT AN INVESTIGATION WAS REQUIRED, AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS COOPERATING WITH THE UN IN THIS INVESTIGATION.

IN BURUNDI, UNDER SECRETARY WIRTH URGED THE PARTIES TO COMPLETE THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION PROCESS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THE COUNTRY COULD MOVE FORWARD WITH ITS DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION.

Q: OTHER THAN DEMARCHES, WHAT ELSE ARE THE U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY DOING TO ADDRESS THE REPORTS OF UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 261704 272047Z RPF ABUSES?

A: THE U.S. IS WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE UN TO COMPLETE DEPLOYMENT OF UNAMIR AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. THERE ARE

ALREADY ABOUT 4,200 UNAMIR PERSONNEL IN RWANDA; THE 5,500 FORCE SHOULD BE FULLY DEPLOYED BY THE END OF THE MONTH.

IN ADDITION, WE ARE PUSHING TO HAVE THE UN COMPLETE DEPLOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE FIRST GROUP OF 25 SHOULD BE ON THE GROUND BY THE END OF THE MONTH.

THE U.S. HAS PLEDGED A VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION OF DOLLARS 750,000 AND HAS BEEN ASSISTING THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO EXPEDITE PLANNING AND RECRUITMENT OF MONITORS. THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER'S PLAN OF ACTION INCLUDES APPROXIMATELY 150 MONITORS, FORENSICS EXPERTS, AND OTHER SPECIALISTS, AND THE UN WILL BE APPEALING FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THESE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.

WE ARE ALSO PRESSING FOR RAPID COMPLETION OF THE WORK OF THE UN COMMISSION OF EXPERTS AND SPEEDY ESTABLISHMENT OF A UN WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL TO BRING TO JUSTICE THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE, WAR CRIMES, OR OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS ATROCITIES. WE EXPECT THE COMMISSION TO COMPLETE ITS INTERIM REPORT IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO, AND WE INTEND TO MOVE QUICKLY THEREAFTER IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO ESATABLISH A TRIBUNAL.

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- Q: WOULD THE TRIBUNAL ALSO PROSECUTE CASES INVOLVING RPF ATTACKS?
- A: WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THE TRIBUNAL MUST BE EVEN-HANDED IN METING OUT JUSTICE AND THAT ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE COMMITTED VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW IN RWANDA SINCE APRIL -- REGARDLESS OF WHICH SIDE THEY MAY HAVE FOUGHT FOR OR SUPPORTED -- SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL.
- Q: WHATIMPLICATIONS DO THESE REPORTS HAVE ON OUR RELATIONS WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN RWANDA?
- A: WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT THAT OUR RELATIONS AND ASSISTANCE DEPEND ON SERIOUS EFFORTS BY THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT TO CREATE CONDITIONS THAT WILL PROMOTE REFUGEE RETURN, INTERNAL RECOVERY, AND, ULTIMATELY, NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.

WE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL ACT QUICKLY TO END THESE

ATTACKS AND INVESTIGATE PAST INCIDENTS SO THAT INNOCENT LIVES ARE PROTECTED AND REFUGEES WILL FEEL SAFE

TO RETURN. THIS WOULD ALLOW US TO CONTINUE DEVELOPING OUR RELATIONS AND ASSISTING THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND ITS PEOPLE TO RECOVER FROM THE WAR AND MOVE TO NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.

Q: IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGING REFUGEES TO RETURN? IF SO, WILL THESE REPORTS CAUSE YOU TO CHANGE UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 261704 272047Z THAT POLICY?

A: OUR POSITION ON THIS ISSUE HAS NOT CHANGED. FROM THE BEGINNING, WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE CREATION OF CONDITIONS IN RWANDA THAT WILL FACILITATE THE VOLUNTARY RETURN OF REFUGEES IN SAFETY.

WE OPPOSE INVOLUNTARY REPATRIATION AND DO NOT SUPPORT ENCOURAGING REFUGEE RETURN IF IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT REPATRIATION CAN BE DONE SAFELY.

OUR DEMARCHES TO THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THE REPORTS OF ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS, AND THE DEPLOYMENT OF EXPANDED UNAMIR AND HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS, ARE INTENDED TO IMPROVE THE SECURITY SITUATION AND THEREBY FACILITATE SAFE, VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION.

- Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT REPORTS OF FORMER GOVERNMENT SOLDIERS ENGAGING OR PLANNING TO ENGAGE IN GUERILLA WARFARE?
- A: WE REMAIN CONCERNED BY INSECURITY IN THE BORDER AREA BETWEEN ZAIRE AND RWANDA. RECENT SECURITY INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN TRACED TO THE PRESENCE OF COHESIVE UNITS OF MEMBERS OF THE FORMER RWANDAN ARMED FORCES AMONG THE REFUGEE POPULATION.

THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THAT SMALL GROUPS OF FORMER RWANDAN ARMED FORCES MAY HAVE RE-ENTERED RWANDA. AS YET, HOWEVER, THERE ARE NO SIGNS THAT THIS IS AN ORGANIZED INCURSION.

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RETURN TO RWANDA OF REFUGES HAS BEEN INHIBITED BY HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION BY MEMBERS OF THE FORMER RWANDAN ARMED FORCES, HUTU MILITAS AND CIVILIAN MEMBERS OF

THE FORMER RWANDAN GOVERNMENT.

THE CONTINUED INSECURITY ALONG THE BORDER HIGHLIGHTS
THE THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO WORK WITH
THE UN TO ACCELERATE DEPLOYMENT OF A FULL COMPLEMENT OF
UNAMIR PEACEKEEPERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS TO RWANDA.

3. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - MOZAMBIQUE: UN PERFORMANCE

Q: DO YOU HAVE A COMMENT ON UN'S PERFORMANCE IN MOZAMBIQUE AS MENTIONED IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL YESTERDAY?

A: THE UN OPERATION IN MOZAMBIQUE (ONUMOZ) HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN MANY AREAS OF ITS ENDEAVOR TO BRING PEACE AND DEMOCRACY TO THAT COUNTRY. AS THE ARTICLE ACKNOWLEDGES, THE UN HAS "LABORED EFFECTIVELY" TO KEEP THE MOZAMBICAN PEACE PROCESS ON TRACK.

UNDER THE SKILLFUL AND ENERGETIC LEADERSHIP OF UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ALDO AJELLO, ONUMOZ:

\$ HAS MAINTAINED A CEASEFIRE BETWEEN TWO SIDES WHICH FOUGHT A BRUTAL 16 YEAR CIVIL WAR,

#### UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 261704 272047Z \$ HAS DEMOBILIZED THE RIVAL FORCES, AND

\$ HAS FACILITATED REGISTRATION OF MORE THAN 6 MILLION VOTERS FOR MOZAMBIQUE'S FIRST MULTI-PARTY ELECTIONS NEXT MONTH.

HOWEVER, ONUMOZ HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN CARRYING OUT ITS DEMINING RESPONSIBILITIES.

A UN SECURITY COUNCIL MISSION HAS DESCRIBED DELAYS IN UN DEMINING AS A "SOURCE OF DISMAY" AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT OF AUGUST 26 OUTLINES ACTIONS NEEDED TO ACCELERATE THE PROGRAM.

THE UNITED STATES WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE UN TO ENSURE THAT THE LESSONS OF MOZAMBIQUE, GOOD AND BAD, ARE TRULY LEARNED.

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